

CITY OF DOVER ORDINANCE #2017-13

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DOVER, IN COUNCIL MET:

That Appendix B – Zoning, Article 3 – District Regulations, Section 1 – One-Family Residence Zones, of the Dover Code be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. - DISTRICT REGULATIONS

Section 1. - One-family residence zones [(R-20, R-15, R-10, R-8 and R-7)].

(R-20, R-15, R-10, R-8, R-7.) (See also article 5, Supplementary Regulations; and article 6, Off-Street Parking, Driveways and Loading Facilities.)

1.1 *Uses permitted.* In a one-family residence R-20, R-15, R-10, R-8 and R-7 zones, no building or premises shall be used and no building or part of a building shall be erected or altered which is arranged, intended or designed to be used, in whole or in part, for any uses except the following:

1.11 The raising of field and garden crops, vineyards and orchard farming, the maintenance of nurseries, and the seasonal sale of the products thereof, provided no building is erected and signs conform with article 5, section 4.

1.12 One-family detached dwellings, not to exceed one such dwelling per lot.

1.13 Public buildings, structures and uses, including parks and playgrounds, subject to approval of site plans by the planning commission in accordance with article 10, section 2.

1.14 The following uses are permitted, conditional upon the approval of the planning commission in accordance with the procedures and subject to the general conditions set forth in section 10.1 and to any specified requirements set forth below:

- (a) Places of worship, including parish houses; [and] schools, including nursery schools, kindergartens and day care centers in accordance with article 5, Supplementary Regulations, section 14. Child day care facilities; philanthropic and eleemosynary institutions; hospitals and sanitariums for general medical care; and funeral homes subject to the following requirements:
 - i. Any school permitted under this paragraph [subsection 1.14(a)] shall be a nonprofit organization within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Act and shall be registered effectively as such thereunder.
 - ii. Any school permitted under this paragraph [subsection 1.14(a)], other than a kindergarten, nursery school, or day care center, shall occupy a lot with an area of not less than two acres, plus one acre for each 100 pupils for which the building is designed.
 - iii. Any kindergarten or nursery school permitted under this paragraph [subsection 1.14(a)] shall be limited to a maximum of 50 children in zones R-8 thru R-20 and a maximum of 100 children in all other zones. At least 100 square feet of outdoor play space per child shall be provided. Outdoor play space shall be fenced or otherwise enclosed on all sides and shall not include driveways, parking areas, or land unsuited by other usage or natural features for children's active play space. Fencing or other enclosures shall be a minimum height of four feet. The minimum lot area for each ten, or remainder over the multiple of ten, children shall be the

same as the minimum lot area requirement for each dwelling unit in the districts in which such uses are to be located.

- iv. No such building or part thereof shall be erected with less than a 50-foot front yard or nearer than 25 feet from any other street or property line.
 - v. The sum of all areas covered by all principal and accessory buildings shall not exceed 20 percent of the area of the lot.
 - vi. Courts shall conform to the requirements of article 5, section 3 hereof.
- (b) Railroad and public utility rights-of-way and structures necessary to serve areas within the city, subject to such conditions as the planning commission may impose in order to protect and promote the health and safety and general welfare of the community and the character of the neighborhood in which the proposed structure is to be constructed.
- (c) Country clubs or other annual membership clubs, catering exclusively to members and their guests, and accessory private playgrounds, golf courses, swimming pools, tennis courts and recreation buildings not conducted as business enterprises, provided that the following operations shall be prohibited:
- i. Outdoor entertainment, live or mechanical;
 - ii. The use of outdoor public address systems for any purpose; and
 - iii. Exterior lighting producing glare at the lot line other than that essential for the safety of the users of the premises.

No building erected under the provisions of this paragraph [subsection 1.14(c)] shall be so erected nearer than 50 feet to any street or property line.

(d) Adult day care facilities in accordance with Article 5 – Supplementary Regulations, Section 22 – Adult Day Care Facilities.1.15 Accessory uses, limited to the following:

- (a) Professional office or studio of an artist, dentist, musician, teacher, or physician, but not including veterinarians, provided that:
 - i. Such office or studio is incidental to the residential use of the premises and is carried on by a resident thereon with not more than one nonresident assistant; and
 - ii. Such office or studio shall occupy not more than 30 percent of the area of one floor of the main building.
 - iii. Studios where dancing or music instruction is offered to groups in excess of four pupils at one time or where concerts or recitals are held are prohibited.
 - iv. Medical centers, barbershops, beauty parlors, real estate offices, funeral homes or similar uses shall not be considered permitted accessory uses.
- (b) Garden house, tool house, playhouse, greenhouse or pool incidental to the residential use of the premises and not operated for gain.

- (c) Private garage, provided that, in the case of a one-family dwelling, such garage shall have a capacity of not more than three passenger automobiles. One such space may be leased to a person not [a] resident on the premises.
- (d) Keeping domestic animals as pets, provided not more than three (3) dogs over six months old, shall be permitted.
- (e) Keeping of chickens for individual domestic purposes subject to the following restrictions:
 - i. Keeping of chickens shall not be permitted on lots smaller than 10,890 square feet in lot area.
 - ii. No more than five (5) chickens shall be permitted on a residential lot.
 - iii. Chickens shall be registered with the Delaware Department of Agriculture.
 - iv. Chickens shall be penned in a coop that shall be at least four (4) square feet per chicken.
 - v. All chicken coops shall be located in a rear yard and shall be a minimum of 20 feet from side and rear property lines.
 - vi. Any odor associated with the chickens shall not be discernable from property lines.
 - vii. Keeping of roosters shall be prohibited.
 - viii. Any lot with chickens shall either comply with these requirements by June 1, 2016 or remove the chickens.
- (f) Dormitories accessory to schools, provided that such dormitories conform to the bulk regulations of the RG-1 zone. For purposes of computing bulk requirements, each four rooms shall be considered one dwelling unit. Parking shall be calculated as identified in Article 6—Off-Street Parking, Section 3—Required off-street parking spaces, Paragraph 3.1—Schedule of requirements.
- (g) Customary home occupations, provided that:
 - i. No display of products, goods and/or signs shall be visible from the street.
 - ii. Such home occupation shall be incidental and secondary to the residential use of the premises and shall be conducted in the principal building by the resident or residents that reside therein.
 - iii. Nonresident assistants or co-workers shall be prohibited.
 - iv. Such home occupation shall not occupy more than 30 percent of the area of one floor in the principal building.
 - v. There shall be no exterior effect such as noise, traffic, odor, dust, smoke, gas, fumes, radiation, or electromagnetic interference.

1.16 [1.2] *Site development plan approval.* Site development plan approval in accordance with article 10, section 2 hereof shall be required prior to the issuance of building permits for the erection or enlargement of all structures and related accessory structures. Such approval shall also be required prior to the issuance of certificates of occupancy for a change of use.

1.17 [1.3] *Performance standards.* All uses are subject to performance standards as set forth in article 5, section 8.1.

1.18 [1.4] [*Closed zone.*] Zone R-7 is a closed zone in accordance with article 10, section 5.19.

1.19 [1.5] [*Signs.*] Signs shall meet the regulations found in article 5, section 4, supplementary sign regulations.

(Ord. of 1-8-1979; Ord. of 5-14-1990; Ord. of 12-14-1992(2); Ord. of 7-10-2000; Ord. of 2-12-2001; Ord. No. 2009-12, 9-14-2009; Ord. No. 2011-21, 10-10-2011; [Ord. No. 2016-01, 4-11-2016](#).)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED:

That Appendix B – Zoning, Article 3 – District Regulations, Section 10 – Institutional and Office Zone of the Dover Code be amended to read as follows:

Section 10. - Institutional and office zone (IO).

10.1 *Uses permitted.* In an institutional and office zone (IO), no building or premises shall be used, and no building or part of a building shall be erected, which is arranged, intended, or designed to be used, in whole or in part, for any purpose, except the following:

- (a) Business, professional, or governmental offices.
- (b) Banks.
- (c) Research, design, and development laboratories.
- (d) Public and institutional uses including hospitals, medical clinics, libraries, police stations, courthouses, transit centers, schools, colleges, universities, places of public assembly, philanthropic and charitable institutions, parks, playgrounds, public indoor recreation centers, athletic fields.
- (e) Public utility rights-of-way and structures necessary to serve areas within the city.
- (f) Child day care centers, provided they are established in accordance with all applicable state regulations pertaining to child care and provided that they are established and maintained in accordance with article 5, section 14 of this ordinance.
- (g) Emergency shelters and transitional housing.
- (h) Adult day care facilities provided they are established in accordance with all applicable state regulations pertaining to adult care and provided that they are established and maintained in accordance with article 5, section 22 of this ordinance.

10.2 *Conditional uses.* The following uses are permitted, conditional upon the approval of the planning commission in accordance with the procedures and subject to the general conditions set forth in article 10, section 1:

- (a) Firearm ranges, prisons, and correctional facilities.
- (b) Public incinerators.
- (c) Hotels and restaurants.

10.3 *Accessory uses.* The following uses shall be permitted accessory to other permitted uses on a lot.

- (a) Clinics, cafeterias, and recreational facilities.
- (b) Motor vehicle storage and repair facilities accessory to a public or institutional use.
- (c) Restaurants that are on a campus and intended to support users of the campus.

10.4 *Uses prohibited.* The following uses are prohibited:

- (a) Landfills, dumps.

10.5 *Enclosed buildings.* All permitted uses and all storage accessory thereto, other than offstreet parking, shall be carried on in buildings fully enclosed on all sides, except for outdoor eating areas associated with restaurants approved by the city planner.

10.6 *Performance standards.* All uses are subject to performance standards as set forth in article 5, section 8.1.

10.7 *Site development plan approval.* Site development plan approval in accordance with article 10, section 2 hereof shall be required prior to the issuance of building permits for the erection or enlargement of all structures and prior to the issuance of certificates of occupancy for any change of use.

(Ord. of 10-24-1983; Ord. of 12-14-1992; Ord. of 7-12-1993, § 7; Ord. of 4-25-1994; Ord. of 10-12-1998; Ord. of 7-10-2000; Ord. of 2-12-2001; Ord. of 4-23-2007(1); Ord. of 4-23-2007(2); [Ord. No. 2014-08, 7-14-2014](#).)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED:

That Appendix B – Zoning, Article 5 –Supplementary Regulations, Section 14 – Day Care Facilities of the Dover Code be amended to read as follows:

Section 14. – Child day care facilities.

14.1 *General.* In order to promote the development of quality child care outside of the home (day care facilities), the following two basic assumptions have been made:

14.11 The establishment of child day care services and facilities, wherever there is a need, is a necessary public objective; and

14.12 Day care programs for children shall be treated as community facilities and shall be permitted to locate in any zoning district, provided that need has been demonstrated, state licensing requirements have been met and no physical hazard to children can be reasonably anticipated.

14.2 *Definitions.*

Child day care facility. For the purposes of this ordinance, the facilities described furnishing

care, supervision and guidance of a child or group of children unaccompanied by a parent or guardian, for periods of less than 24 hours per day shall be defined as follows:

14.21 *Child day care center.*

- (a) Any place, other than an occupied residence, which receives children for compensation for day care or large family day care home; and
- (b) Any occupied residence which receives 13 or more children for compensation for day care.

Child day care centers shall be required to obtain conditional use approval by the planning commission in accordance with the procedures and subject to the general conditions set forth in article 10 and to any specified requirement set forth in subsection 14.3 below, except in zoning districts where listed as a permitted use.

14.22 *Family day care home-children.* An occupied residence in which a person provides care for children other than his/her own family and the children of close relatives for compensation. Such care in a family day care home is limited to that care given to six or fewer children with a maximum of three children allowed for after school care. Such child care facility shall be permitted as an accessory use in all residential zones and shall be exempt from obtaining a conditional use permit and site plan approval.

14.23 *Large family day care home-children.* A facility which provides child care for more than six, but less than 13 children with a maximum of three children allowed for after school care. This care may be offered in a private home or in a property converted to the purpose of providing child day care. This form of day care facility requires the submission of a site plan application in accordance with the procedures and subject to article 10, section 2 of the zoning ordinance. If a large family day care home is not to be located in an occupied residence, then a conditional use site plan application shall be required in accordance with article 10 section 1 of the zoning ordinance.

14.3 Zoning criteria.

14.31 *Number of children.* Day care centers shall be limited to a maximum of 50 children in all residential zones.

14.32 *Outdoor play area.* Must meet the state requirement for day care centers.

14.33 *Off-street parking/loading.* One space per each adult attendant, plus one space for every ten children.

14.34 *Signage for child day care facilities*

- (a) *Signs in residential zones.*
 - (a) i. *Family day care homes-children and large family day care homes-children.* One wall-mounted sign limited to two square feet.

~~(b)~~ ii. *Child day care center.* One sign, wall-mounted or freestanding, limited in area to 12 square feet. The planning commission shall consider the location of such sign as part of the conditional use review and may approve a lesser amount of sign area if deemed necessary by the commission to protect the general health, safety and welfare of the public in general and the residents of the immediate neighborhood in particular.

(b) *Signs in nonresidential zones.* Child day care centers within nonresidential zoning districts shall be governed by the sign regulations in effect for the particular nonresidential zoning district in which the day care center is located.

14.35 *Licensing requirements.* Child day care facilities must meet state licensing standards and must be inspected by the City of Dover Fire Marshal’s Office. A City of Dover Business License and a Public Occupancy Permit is required.

(Ord. of 5-14-1990; Ord. of 4-25-1994; Ord. of 4-23-2007(3))

Editor's note— The subsections of this section have been numbered by the editor to retain format.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED:

That Appendix B – Zoning, Article 5 –Supplementary Regulations of the Dover Code be amended by inserting a new Section 22 – Adult Day Care Facilities, as follows:

Section 22. – Adult day care facilities

Adult day care facilities shall be permitted to locate in any zoning district provided that state licensing requirements have been met and such facilities are subject to the following requirements:

22.1 *Definitions*

Adult day care facilities apply to any program that provides health, social and related support services for four or more functionally impaired adults who requires supervision due to cognitive or physical impairment or who cannot independently perform one or more activities of daily living. These services are provided to adults for a period of less than 12 hours during the day and are provided in a setting other than a participant’s home or the residence of the facility operator.

Small adult day care facility. A facility that provides services for four adult participants but less than 16 adult participants.

Large adult day care facility. A facility that provides services for 16 or more adult participants.

22.2 *Review Process*

(a) Adult day care facilities are permitted as accessory uses to existing facilities that provide services to adult participants.

(b) *Residential zones.* A conditional use site plan application shall be required in accordance with Appendix B-Zoning, Article 10-Planning Commission section 1 for adult day care facilities in residential zones.

(c) *Non-residential zones.*

- i. Site development plan approval in accordance with Appendix B-Zoning, article 10, section 2 hereof shall be required for small adult day care facilities.
- ii. A conditional use site plan application shall be required in accordance with Appendix B-Zoning, article 10 section 1 for large adult day care facilities.

22.3 Zoning criteria

22.31 *Off-street parking.* One space per each adult attendant, plus one space for every four adult participants.

22.32 *Signage for adult day care facilities*

- (a) *Signage in a residential zone.* One sign, wall-mounted or freestanding, limited in area to 12 square feet. The planning commission shall consider the location of such sign as part of the conditional use review and may approve a lesser amount of sign area if deemed necessary by the commission to protect the general health, safety and welfare of the public in general and the residents of the immediate neighborhood in particular.
- (b) *Signs in nonresidential zones.* Adult day care facilities within nonresidential zoning districts shall be governed by the sign regulations in effect for the particular nonresidential zoning district in which the day care facility is located.

22.33 *Licensing requirements.* Adult day care facilities must meet state licensing standards and must be inspected by the City of Dover Fire Marshal's Office. A City of Dover Business License and a Public Occupancy Permit are required.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED:

That Appendix B - Zoning, Article 12 – Definitions of the Dover Code be amended by inserting the following new definition in its correct alphabetical order:

Adult day care facilities: Apply to any program that provides health, social and related support services for four or more functionally impaired adults who require supervision due to cognitive or physical impairment or who cannot independently perform one or more activities of daily living. These services are provided to adults for a period of less than 12 hours during the day and are provided in a setting other than a participant's home or the residence of the facility operator.

- (a) **Small adult day care facility:** A facility that provides services for four adult participants but less than 16 adult participants.

- (b) Large adult day care facility: A facility that provides services for 16 or more adult participants.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED:

That Appendix B - Zoning, Article 12 – Definitions – Day care facility of the Dover Code be amended by inserting the following definitions in their correct alphabetical order:

Child day care facility: For the purposes of this ordinance, the facilities described furnishing care, supervision and guidance of a child or group of children unaccompanied by a parent or guardian for periods of less than 24 hours per day shall be defined as follows:

- (a) *Child day care center:*
 - i. Any place, other than an occupied residence, which receives children for day care or large family day care home; and
 - ii. Any place, including an occupied residence, which receives 13 or more children for day care.

(b) *Family day care home-children:* An occupied residence in which a person provides day care for children other than his/her own family and the children of close relatives. Such care in a family day care home is limited to that care given to six or fewer children with a maximum of three children allowed for after school care. Such child care shall be permitted as an accessory use in all residential zones and shall be exempt from obtaining a conditional use permit and site plan approval.

(c) *Large family day care home-children:* A facility which provides child care for more than six, but less than 13 children with a maximum of three children allowed for after school care. This care may be offered in a private home or in a property converted to the purpose of providing child day care.

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 11, 2017

SYNOPSIS

The proposed ordinance Article 5 section 22 will be a new section added to the *Zoning Ordinance* to allow Adult day care facilities to be permitted in any zoning district provided that state licensing and city code requirements have been met. The proposed amendment under Article 5 section 14 of the *Zoning Ordinance* are revisions to the existing ordinance that identifies Child day care facilities. Other amendments revise references and definitions pertaining to these uses.

(SPONSORS: NEIL AND HUGG)

Actions History:

- 12/11/17 – Public Hearing – City Council
- 11/20/17 – Public Hearing - Planning Commission
- 10/09/17 – First Reading – City Council
- 09/25/17 – Introduction – Council Committee of the Whole/Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee